ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for decoding a bit stream encoded in a digital camcorder (DV) format is disclosed. The method includes a preprocessing step of detecting a position of an EOB (end of block) of respective DCT blocks using length information of a variable-length code of a bit stream encoded in the DV format, and a step of redefining a processing order of the DCT blocks according to the position of the EOB detected at the preprocessing step, and performing a variable-length decoding with respect to the respective DCT blocks in the redefined processing order. The blocks that can be processed are preferentially transmitted according to the detection of the EOB in transmitting the bit stream to the variable-length decoder, and thus the delay that may be produced when the whole block is sequentially processed can be minimized. Also, since the decoding is performed through redefining of the processing order of the DCT blocks, a storage device only for one DCT block can be used.